THE

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

MESSENGERS, ELDERS,

AND

REPRESENTATIVES

OF THE

GENERAL BAPTIST CHURCHES IN KENT,

AT AN

ASSOCIATION HELD AT CANTERBURY,

MAY 6, 1800.

A SERMON was preached by BROTHER JOSEPH HOBBS,

from Eph. i. 13, 14.

"In whom ye also trusted, &c. &c."

CANTERBURY:

PRINTED BY W. BRISTOW, ON THE PARADE.

M,DCCC.

Preſent—Meſſenger *Brother S. Kingsford.*

Chairman—*Brother Benjamin Marten.*

Moderators—*Brothers F. J. Kingsford* and *Joſ. Dobel.*

CHURCHES.	ELDERS.	REPRESENTATIVES.
Canterbury, - -	S. Kingsford	P. Chapman. E. Hayward, jun. Tho. Fletcher. Stephen Howell.
Dover, - - - - - - - -		Sampſon Peirce. Geo. Oliver. John Baker. Samuel Beal.
Deal, - - -	John Kingsford	John Browning. F. J. Kingsford.
Hythe, - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -		
Ramſgate, - - - - - - - - - - - - - -		
Smarden and Staplehurſt,	Joſeph Seaton	Thomas Fagg. Benjamin Auſten. Joſeph Brounger.
Headcorn, - -	Edward Love R. Pyall B. Martin	Stephen Love. John Love, jun.
Cranbrook, - - - - - - -		Tho. Pawſons. Wm. Buſs. Joſeph Dobel.
Chatham, - -	Joſeph Hobbs	
Beſſels Green, - - - - - - - - - - - -		
Yalding, - - - - - - - - - - - - - -		
Maidſtone, - - - - - - - - - - - - - -		

First.—Reſpecting the firſt article of the proceedings of laſt Aſſociation, viz. the ordination of Deacons in the churches of *Dover* and *Hythe*; Brother *Sampſon Kingsford* has again viſited thoſe churches, and reports that from the preſent ſituation of the church at *Hythe*, it is neceſſary to poſtpone the buſineſs ſtill longer; but as it reſpects *Dover* church, there is reaſon to expect ſome favourable alterations relative to the ordination of Deacons will ſoon commence.

Second.—Not having received any letter nor any repreſentative attending from the church at *Yalding*, we recommend that our Brethren, who ſupplied them laſt year, continue to ſupply them this, and alſo preſs the requeſt of laſt year with reſpect to carrying on public worſhip, ſhould they be diſappointed of a Miniſter.

Third.—In compliance with the requeſt of the fifth article of our laſt proceedings, our Brethren, *S. Kingsford* and *F. J. Kingsford*, have uſed means for the obtaining a new truſt for *Wingham* Meeting-houſe, and report that a new truſt has been appointed, and that it is probable the writings will ſoon be drawn up and excuted with the following names as new Truſtees, viz.—*Edward Kingsford*, *Wm. Kingsford*, *Barton*, *Sampſon Kingsford*, *F. J. Kings-*

F. J. Kingsford, John Kingsford, Theophilus Carter, Thomas Chriſtopher, Thomas Chapman, jun.

Fourth.—It appears that ſome attention has been paid to the ſixth article of laſt Aſſociation, and that with conſiderable advantage; we therefore recommend that in future the motion of *Canterbury* church be more diligently regarded.

Fifth.—As agreed to laſt year, the writings of *Deal* and *Sandwich* Baptiſt Meeting-houſes have been received from Mrs. Wiſe, and are depoſited with Brother *Stephen Carter*.

Sixth.—With regard to the application of our Portſmouth friends, contained in the ninth article of laſt Aſſociation; by letter to this Aſſociation from that church, they thankfully acknowledge the receipt of collections from ſeveral churches; we ſtill beg leave to recommend this caſe to the attention of ſuch churches as have not yet made their contributions.

Seventh.—The addreſs drawn up by Brother *John Kingsford* on the means of promoting a revival of religion in our churches was read, approved, and ordered to be printed.

Eighth.

Eighth.—Our Brethren at *Chatham* have agreed to renew the leaſe of their Meeting-houſe, and to build a baptiſtry and veſtry, and alſo to enlarge and encloſe their burial ground. The expence will amount to about 300l. nearly 200l. of which is already ſubſcribed. They having requeſted the aſſiſtance of this Aſſociation to enable them to accompliſh their deſign. We being perſuaded the ſubject is worthy the attention of our churches, requeſt our friends to patronize the caſe, and encourage a collection for the ſame.

Ninth.—Our *Cranbrook* friends having requeſted advice in their particular ſituation, we recommend to our friends, the Truſtees of the Meeting-houſe, to give all the indulgence they can (conſiſtent with the nature of their truſt) with reſpect to ſinging, and that Brothers *Boarman* and *Sampſon Kingsford* do embrace the earlieſt opportunity of viſiting them on that buſineſs.

Tenth.—Brother *Chriſtopher*, of *Broadſtairs*, having requeſted advice on the ſubject of admitting to the Lord's Supper thoſe perſons who have only been ſprinkled or immerſed in their infancy. It is our opinion that ſuch a practice is unwarranted by ſcripture, and hath a tendency to make the invention of men appear equal in authority to the commands of God.

Eleventh.

F. J. Kingsford, John Kingsford, Theophilus Carter, Thomas Chriſtopher, Thomas Chapman, jun.

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Eleventh.

Eleventh.—We propoſe the ſubject of address next year to be on the nature and importance of baptiſm, and the neceſſity of Baptiſts being firmly and uniformly attached to thoſe principles and that practice by which they are diſtinguiſhed from other profeſſors of chriſtianity.—The addreſs to be drawn up by Brother *Sampſon Kingsford.*

Twelfth.—On a motion being made by Brother *B. Marten*, we agree that the ſenior Miniſter of the church where the Aſſociation is held, ſhall take upon him the buſineſs of calling the friends together, nominate a Chairman and Moderators, that the buſineſs of the day may be forwarded without loſs of time.

Thirteenth.—The next Aſſociation to be held at *Headcorn*, the Tueſday month before Whitſun Tueſday, 1801.

Fourteenth.—The Aſſociation ſermon to be preached by Brother *Joſeph Seaton*, and in failure of him by Brother *Benjamin Dobel.* Service to begin at half paſt nine o'clock.

Fifteenth.—A ſermon to be preached the evening before by Brother *William Thruſſel*, and in failure of him by Brother *George Newby.*

Sixteenth.

Sixteenth.—The Aſſociation book to be depoſited in the hands of Brother *Edward Love.*

Signed by order of the Aſſociation,

B. Marten, Chairman.

Joſeph Dobel,
F. J. Kingsford, } Moderators.

From the preſs of Wm. Briſtow, Canterbury.

BRITISH
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MUSEUM

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A Sermon was preached by Brother J. SEATON, from *Cor.* vi. 1.

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PRINTED BY J. SAFFERY.

1802.